

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 02448 01 OF 02 161905Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
-----049292 161923Z /42
P 161844Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6074
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 02448

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 16, 1978
(SALT TWO-1622)

SEMENOV STATEMENT, FEBRUARY 16, 1978

- I

IN TERMS OF COMPLIANCE BY BOTH SIDES WITH THE 2,400
AGGREGATE NUMERICAL LEVEL TO BE ESTABLISHED FOR THE
STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS BEING LIMITED, A LEVEL WHICH HAS
BEEN AGREED UPON, IT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO WORK OUT
MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE PROVISIONS FOR ARTICLE II, PAR. 3, OF
THE DRAFT TREATY--ON THE DEFINITION OF HEAVY BOMBERS.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THIS PROVISION OF
THE DRAFT IS RECORDING IN THE TREATY SPECIFIC CURRENT
TYPES OF BOMBERS OF THE SIDES, WHICH WOULD BE INCLUDED
AMONG HEAVY BOMBERS AND COUNTED WITHIN THE AGGREGATE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 02448 01 OF 02 161905Z

NUMBERS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE LIMITATIONS ON STRATEGIC
OFFENSIVE ARMS.

IT IS CLEAR FROM THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT
BEING PREPARED THAT THERE IS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SIDES
THAT BOMBER TYPES TUPOLEV-95 AND MYASISHCHEV FOR THE
USSR, AND B-52 AND B-1 FOR THE U.S. ARE CURRENTLY HEAVY

BOMBERS SUBJECT TO BEING COUNTED WITHIN THE 2,400
AGGREGATE NUMERICAL LEVEL.

THIS IS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH THE AIDE-MEMOIRE OF
DECEMBER 10, 1974, WHICH RECORDED THE UNDERSTANDING
REACHED IN VLADIVOSTOK, AND, ALONG WITH THE RESULTS OF
OTHER RELEVANT SOVIET-U.S. NEGOTIATIONS, MUST BE EMBODIED
IN THE NEW TREATY.

IN CONNECTION WITH DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS OF REACHING
AGREEMENT ON THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE II, PAR. 3, OF THE
DRAFT TREATY IT HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY SAID IN THE COURSE OF
THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS THAT THE APPROACH EXPRESSED BY
THE BRACKETED WORDS "HOWEVER CONFIGURED" IS UNJUSTIFIED.
THIS FORMULA WOULD LEAD TO THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING
AIRPLANES WHICH ARE NOT HEAVY BOMBERS AS HEAVY BOMBERS
AMONG THOSE BEING COUNTED WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS BEING
ESTABLISHED. IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS WOULD BE INCONSISTENT
WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL
SECURITY, AGREED BETWEEN THE SIDES, AND WOULD BE CONTRARY
TO THE OBJECTIVES OF THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE
ARMS.

ATTEMPTS UNDER ANY OTHER EQUALLY UNFOUNDED PRETEXT TO
COUNT AIRPLANES WHICH ARE NOT TYPES OF HEAVY BOMBERS
WITHIN THE 2,400 AGGREGATE NUMBER WOULD ALSO BE CONTRARY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 GENEVA 02448 01 OF 02 161905Z

TO THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AT THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION'S STATEMENT OF
FEBRUARY 8, 1978, I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS AGAIN THAT
SOVIET TUPOLEV-142 ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRPLANES ARE
AIRPLANES OF A DIFFERENT TYPE THAN TUPOLEV-95 HEAVY
BOMBERS.

TUPOLEV-142 ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRPLANES EXISTING
IN THE USSR ARE BY NO MEANS A "VARIANT" OF HEAVY BOMBERS
OF THE TUPOLEV-95 TYPE, MERELY, SO TO SAY, "USED IN AN
ANTI-SUBMARINE ROLE." THE TUPOLEV-142 AIRPLANE REPRESENTS
A SPECIAL, I STRESS, A SPECIAL TYPE OF AIRPLANE, DESIGNED
AND BUILT TO CARRY OUT QUITE SPECIFIC MISSIONS, DIFFERENT
FROM THE MISSIONS FOR WHICH HEAVY BOMBERS ARE DESIGNED
AND BUILT.

DURING THE DISCUSSION OF THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE II,
PAR. 3, OF THE DRAFT TREATY, THE SOVIET SIDE NAMED THE
EXTERNALLY OBSERVABLE FEATURES OF TUPOLEV-142 AIRPLANES,
WHICH CLEARLY DISTINGUISH THEM FROM TUPOLEV-95 TYPE
HEAVY BOMBERS AND DEFINITELY INDICATE THAT THE MISSION OF

THESE AIRPLANES IS TO PERFORM SPECIFIC TASKS IN THE ANTI-SUBMARINE ROLE PECULIAR TO THEM.

IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT AIRPLANES OF THIS TYPE, AS DISTINCT FROM TUPLEV-95 HEAVY BOMBERS, HAVE DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS OF THE FUSELAGE, THE LANDING GEAR HOUSING AND THE RADOME.

THUS, THE SOVET TUPOLEV-142 ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRPLANE DOES NOT AND CANNOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 02448 02 OF 02 161906Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W

-----049319 161926Z /42

P 161844Z FEB 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6075

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 02448

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

HEAVY BOMBERS. TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF THIS AIRPLANE AS SUPPOSEDLY SUBJECT TO CONSIDERATION IN THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE II, PAR. 3, OF THE DRAFT TREATY--ON THE DEFINITION OF HEAVY BOMBERS--IS COMPLETELY GROUNDLESS AND ARTIFICIAL, AND CONTRARY TO THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL SECURITY.

- II

MR. AMBASSADOR,

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE QUESTION OF THE SOVIET TUPOLEV-142 ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE AIRPLANE, THE U.S. DELEGATION'S STATEMENT AT THE FEBRUARY 8, 1978 MEETING REFERRED TO THE THESIS CONTAINED IN THE USSR DELEGATION'S

STATEMENT AT THE JANUARY 12, 1978 MEETING, TO THE EFFECT
THAT BOMBERS ARE THOSE TYPES OF AIRPLANES WHICH ARE
SPECIALLY BUILT TO BE EQUIPPED WITH BOMBS OR MISSILES.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 02448 02 OF 02 161906Z

THE REFERENCE TO THIS THESIS IN THE USSR DELEGATION'S
STATEMENT OF JANUARY 12, 1978, PRESENTED AS A DRAFT
AGREED STATEMENT TO ARTICLE II, PAR. 3, OF THE DRAFT
TREATY, IS IRRELEVANT IN THE CONTEXT UNDER CONSIDERATION.
WE HAVE PROVIDED THE RATIONALE FOR THIS. EARLE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), SPEECHES, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA02448
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780072-0258
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780248/aaaaborc.tel
Line Count: 185
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3432dbd5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3576402
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 16, 1978 (SALT TWO-1622) SEMENOV STATEMENT, FEBRUARY 16, 1978
TAGS: PARM, US, UR, (SEMENOV, V S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3432dbd5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014